

AMENDMENT TO SUPERVISOR KNABE'S MOTION NO.5
BY SUPERVISOR KUEHL

March 8, 2016

PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

Prescription drugs are often essential in helping patients maintain health and wellbeing. Prescribed medications are used to prevent illness, treat acute health issues and manage chronic conditions. The rising costs of pharmaceuticals can make them unattainable for some uninsured or underinsured County residents who may be unable to purchase prescription drugs or maintain the drug regiment prescribed by their physicians. This can result in adverse health outcomes and preventable health complications.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) have established prescription drug discount card programs, which allow individuals without insurance coverage to obtain many prescription drugs at a discounted rate at local pharmacies. There are many other available discount card options available. These drug discount programs are available via the web, are free to consumers, and provide the ability to download and print drug discount cards to use in local pharmacies.

MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
SOLIS	_____

The Los Angeles County Health Agency is a vital resource in the provision of health services and information. As such, it is in a unique position to provide accurate, accessible health information for our patients and other local residents and should take the lead in this effort.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD direct the Director of the Health Agency, working in collaboration with the Departments of Health, Mental Health and Public Health to review and evaluate existing prescription drug discount programs including those available through NACo and CSAC to determine the feasibility of implementing drug discount programs for Los Angeles County residents; and to determine the added value that these programs may provide to sub-populations of particular interest to the County, such as: the residually uninsured, the elderly, those on GR, the homeless, those receiving Medical-Cal, and those who qualify for a health plan and subsidies through Covered California."

WE, FURTHER MOVE, THAT THE BOARD direct the Director of the Health Agency, in collaboration with the Directors of the Departments of Health, Public Health and Mental Health, to report back their findings and recommendations within 60 days.

###